

FLEET AT AUCKLAND

Sixteen American Warships
Drop Anchor Once More.

CEREMONIES ON AT ONCE

Rear Admiral Sperry Pays Usual
Visits of Respect.

BIG TIME BEGINS TOMORROW

Whole Town is in Fete and Most
Elaborate Entertainment Pro-
gram Has Been Arranged.

WRIGHT FLIES EASILY

Sends Aeroplane Through Air
at Mile-a-Minute Clip.

FRENCH AVIATORS APPLAUD

Nearly Two Miles Covered Near
Lemans, France.

HE HAS PERFECT CONTROL

Expects to Do Greater Things Next
Week in His Second Trial
Abroad.

AUCKLAND, N. Z., August 8.—Sixteen white ships, comprising the battleship division of the United States Atlantic fleet, under command of Rear Admiral Charles S. Sperry, arrived here at 8:40 o'clock this morning and anchored in two columns in the roadstead abreast the city after a voyage of thirty-three days from San Francisco, including a stopover of six days at Honolulu. They will remain here until next Saturday.

When the warships entered the harbor the usual salutes were exchanged between them and the shore batteries and the Australian flagship Powerful and the cruisers Encounter and Pioneer.

Sperry Pays His Respects.

Shortly after anchoring Admiral Sperry, accompanied by his staff, went ashore and paid his respects to Lord Plunkitt, the Governor of New Zealand, and afterward visited William A. Pritchett, the American consul general. The governor and Mr. Pritchett later returned the admiral's visit aboard the flagship Connecticut.

This exchange of courtesies ended the program of the first day's stay of the American fleet in New Zealand waters, but tomorrow will begin a week of ceremonies and festivities for which the most elaborate preparations have been made, including the reception of the fleet on the beach by the governor, the prime minister, the Hon. Sir Joseph George Ward; the presentation of various addresses, parades, military reviews, banquets, excursions to nearby points of interest and horse racing and various other sports. In the arrangements for the entertainment of the personnel of the fleet the various committees have paid particular attention to plans for making most enjoyable the stay here of the enlisted men.

City Is En Fete.

The city is elaborately decorated in honor of the visit of the Americans, and thousands of persons already have come into the city in order to assist in paying homage to the officers and men. Queen street, the leading thoroughfare of the city, is profusely decorated with flags and bunting, the Stars and Stripes and the Union Jack of Great Britain being set at intervals along the route.

The crowds are enthusiastic over the visit of their American cousins, and throughout the day thronged the waterfront of the city to view the stately ships lying at anchor in the roadstead. As a special honor the board of education has changed the date of the Michaelmas holidays, which will be observed on Monday, their week's vacation, beginning tomorrow, in order that they may join with their elders in making the stay of the American fleet a notable one.

An Imposing Spectacle.

The fleet steamed to its anchorage in perfect formation, the day was bright with sunshine and the sea shimmered like a sheet of glass. The shores were lined with 50,000 persons and the harbor was spotted with the craft of excursionists.

It was an imposing spectacle and the spectators gazed in admiration at the power and majesty of the fleet, its perfect alignment and precision in evolutions, which were completed without the slightest hitch.

When the flagship Powerful of the bands of the visitors played the British national anthem, and as the Connecticut passed it the band of the Australian flagship pealed forth the American anthem.

A GREAT RECORD.

Admiral Pillsbury Declares He Is Immensely Gratiified.

"It is a great record and I am immensely gratified."

This was the comment of Rear Admiral Pillsbury, chief of the bureau of navigation and acting Secretary of the Navy, when the news of the sighting of the Atlantic fleet at Auckland, New Zealand, was communicated to him.

In view of the storm which the fleet encountered on its way from Honolulu, it was scarcely expected that it would arrive at Auckland before midnight of the 8th (four times), which would bring the front of the Atlantic fleet to New Zealand in the ordinary course, some time Sunday afternoon.

The fleet, following its itinerary, was due to reach Auckland on the afternoon of the 8th instant (United States time), and this achievement it has accomplished, although it was necessary, by reason of the violent northeast storm, for Rear Admiral Sperry, in command, to increase the speed of the ships from ten to twelve knots an hour.

The efficiency of the fleet has been proven, and the way in which it weathered the storm through which it has just passed, the most severe it has encountered since it left Hampton Roads—has created the greatest gratification among the officials of the Navy Department.

MUST PAY TAX IN PERSON?

Norfolk City Poll Tax Case Provokes State Interest.

RICHMOND, Va., August 8.—The supreme court of appeals today allowed a writ of error and supersedeas in the Norfolk city poll tax case. The question involved is what constitutes "personal" payment of taxes. Under a decision of Judge Martin of Norfolk no person can vote who does not pay his taxes out of his own funds and in person to the treasurer. The judge himself is disfranchised by his own decision, he having paid with a check.

The decision of the lower court, if sustained, will deprive 75 per cent of the voters of the state of their votes, as the bulk have paid by using checks or by messengers. The new constitution requires that a voter shall "personally" pay his poll tax and would be disfranchised under his own construction of the law, he happens to have been a Confederate soldier and can vote under the constitution without the payment of taxes. Judge Martin was with the Virginia Military Institute cadets in the battle of New Market and other engagements.

Col. Vilas' Condition Unchanged.

MADISON, Wis., August 8.—The condition of Col. William F. Vilas, Postmaster General under President Cleveland, shows no improvement.



WASHINGTON, D. C., August 8.—An important conference having to do with the adoption of a general outline of campaign will be held Tuesday between W. J. Bryan and Norman E. Mack, chairman of the democratic national committee, at Lincoln, Neb. Mr. Mack will leave for Lincoln Monday.

The efforts to obtain a pastured association declining to give a reduced rate to the Bryan notification, Chairman Mack said that the headquarters would be closed tomorrow and the day spent in rest.

Chairman Mack tonight addressed a further communication to Eben E. McLeod, chairman of the western passenger association, calling his attention to a report printed in several western papers that special rates had been granted to a Grand Army meeting to be held in the territory of the association. Up to a late hour he had received no reply to this letter.

SCOURING JERSEY WOODS.

Seeking Negro Assailant of a Farmer's Daughter.

SALEM, N. J., August 8.—Armed posses under the direction of Sheriff Collins B. Allen are searching Salem and adjoining counties tonight for a negro who is charged with a brutal assault upon Stella Lawrence, the twelve-year-old daughter of Oscar Lawrence, a farmer, of Warrington township. The police of every city and town in south Jersey have been furnished with a description of the negro, who was a stranger in the neighborhood, and are making a determined effort to apprehend him.

Farmers and their sons are scouring the woods and roads between here and Woodstown, and if they capture the negro he is in danger of violent treatment. Stella Lawrence left her home to place a letter in a rural delivery mail box at the end of a lane on her father's farm, probably a quarter of a mile from the house. She was about to return when a negro, whose approach she had not noticed, seized her and dragged her away. When the girl did not return, members of her father's family started in search of her. She was carried to the house, but an hour elapsed before she had recovered sufficiently to tell her story. The girl was able to give a very meager description of the negro, whom she had never seen before.

MAY OPPOSE PEARRE.

Sentiment Favors Nomination of Ex-Senator Lewis.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

CUMBERLAND, Md., August 8.—The democrats of Allegany county in convention at Miller's Hall today selected delegates to the sixth Maryland district congressional convention, which assembles at Oakland, August 20.

The sentiment of the convention was decidedly for ex-Senator David J. Lewis for the congressional nomination. Mr. Lewis is a strong Bryan man, always having been an intense admirer of Bryan, and he is a firm advocate of union labor. He has always been retained as counsel for the United Mine Workers. Mr. Lewis is a former law partner of Representative George A. Pearre, who has been renominated by the republicans. Senator Lewis is a student of sociological questions. He is the author of a treatise on government ownership of railroads, and he was the author of the bill in the last Maryland legislature assessing each ton of coal mined five mills to create a fund for the relief of families of miners killed while at work. It was the intention to pay each family \$2,000.

The bill passed the senate and was reported favorably to the house, but died on the speaker's desk. Senator Lewis is noted for his oratorical ability. He began as a coal miner, working in the mines of central Pennsylvania when but twelve years of age. He is of Welsh extraction.

HAYWARD SECRETARY
Succeeds Dover on Republican
National Committee.

LATTER GETS A NEW JOB
Will Become Scribe for Advisers to
Work With Sheldon.

NEW MAN FROM NEBRASKA
Chairman of His Party in That State
for Years—Originated Polling
System.

NEW YORK, August 8.—Elmer E. Dover of Ohio has resigned his position as secretary of the republican national committee and will become the secretary of an advisory committee which is to work with George R. Sheldon, treasurer of the national committee. William Hayward of Nebraska City, Neb., who has been republican chairman in his state for a number of years, has been appointed secretary of the national committee, and will be given charge of the western headquarters at Chicago in the absence of Mr. Hitchcock. This reorganization and several other important announcements were made tonight by Mr. Hitchcock.

The advisory committee which is to have charge of ways and means for the campaign and will work with Mr. Sheldon will consist of nine members. The men who are to be named will be prominent business men and financiers from various sections of the country, and will not be drawn from the ranks of the national committee. They will be men in touch with commercial conditions who have had experience in any campaign with the needs of a party organization. The selection of Mr. Dover for the secretaryship of the committee pleases him, and his acceptance of the place disposes of the reports that his relations with Mr. Hitchcock are not harmonious.

In discussing the change tonight Mr. Hitchcock spoke very frankly of the necessity of a thorough organization for proper financing of the campaign. He admitted that a great deal of money will be charged with the gathering of funds, to go about their plans in a strictly businesslike manner. He added that he could not say that the expenditures were made with just as great care.

The Advisory Committee.

Some of the men who will serve on the advisory committee have accepted appointments already, but the announcement of the full committee will not be ready before next week. Mr. Hitchcock, as chairman of the national committee, will be the chairman of the advisory committee. Mr. Dover will be the ex-officio member of the committee, the headquarters of which will be in this city.

It is not likely that any vice chairman of the national committee will be appointed. Mr. Hayward will give up the chairmanship of the Nebraska state committee and devote his entire time to the management of the campaign in the west, and Mr. Hitchcock will also spend a great deal of time at Chicago.

The announcement was made today by Mr. Hitchcock that he will hold conferences throughout the country with the party managers whenever and wherever he is able to get away. This may keep him away from the actual headquarters in New York and Chicago a great deal of the time during the campaign, and he will be followed by campaign managers in the past, but Mr. Hitchcock submitted it to the party leaders generally and they approved of it.

The Youngest State Chairman.

Mr. Hayward is the youngest state chairman in the United States, being only thirty-one years of age. He originated what is known as the Nebraska system of polling and keeping in touch with voters of his state, which is said to be an improvement on the Tammany and Indiana systems. He is a lawyer.

At the recent republican conferences in Colorado Springs, Mr. Hayward took the lead in talking organization, and he was chosen then as an instructor for other states. Mr. Hayward took a great liking to him, and when asked why, the question was answered by others present: "He is the only man who can show Mr. Hitchcock anything about the campaign. It is true that the two men are very much alike in their demands for as thorough organization in politics as in business."

SARGENT ILL FROM SHOCK.

Immigration Commissioner Sustained Fall While on Vacation.

Frank P. Sargent, commissioner general of the bureau of immigration and naturalization, is seriously ill at his residence in this city from nervous shock as the result of a fall at Shepherdstown, W. Va., where he was spending his summer vacation recently.

His condition was somewhat better last night.

RUMOR BLOCKS TRAFFIC.

False Report About Skyscraper Causes Sensation in Pittsburgh.

PITTSBURGH, August 8.—The erroneous circulation of a report today that the Arrott building, a large skyscraper at 4th avenue and Wood street, was out of plumb and in danger of collapsing caused a number of persons to rush to the vicinity, effectually blocking traffic in one of the busiest portions of the city.

Squads of police, under the direction of Director of Public Safety Lang, and the entire force of the bureau of building inspection were hurried to the building. An examination of the huge structure showed it to be in first-class condition.

It was several hours before the police were able to break up the crowds of spectators. The report resulted from poor official observations of several street surveys.

BOOTH SAILS FOR CAPE TOWN.

Noted Salvation Army Head Has Great Plans Despite Age.

LONDON, August 8.—Gen. William Booth, commander-in-chief of the Salvation Army, sailed this afternoon from England for Cape Town on a three months' tour of South Africa. The aged Salvationist (he is almost eighty years old) has mapped out an itinerary that would tax the strength of a much younger man. He intends to penetrate to many out-of-the-way points which can be reached only by driving for many days in the bullock wagons.

He is in Rhodesia the general hopes to conclude arrangements for colonizing that country by Salvationists on a large scale.

SPEAKER CANNON RENOMINATED.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

CHICAGO, Ill., August 8.—Joseph G. Cannon was renominated for Congress from the eighteenth district tonight by a large majority.